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However, not all U.S. government officials are so convinced that religious freedom is improving in Vietnam. On March 12 the **U.S. Commission on International Religious Freedom (USCIRF)** issued a press release criticizing the arrest of Le Thi Cong Nhan.

Le Thi Cong Nhan is a prominent human rights and religious freedom dissident, according to the release. She was released from prison two months short of completing a three-year sentence for "anti-government activity," but she was detained again just a few days later for telling reporters that her time in prison confirmed her "faith" in the peaceful "struggle for human rights and democracy in Vietnam."

"**USCIRF** has given the Obama Administration and the U.S. Congress compelling evidence of severe and ongoing religious freedom violations in Vietnam," the press release stated.